

REMARKS

Claims 3-6, 8-10, 13-15, 17-18, and 27-34 were pending in the application. In the Office Action mailed on March 30, 2004, claims 3-6, 8-10, 13-15, 17, and 18 were rejected and claims 27-34 were allowed. In order to move prosecution forward to allowance, and without prejudice to Applicants' rights to later pursue the claims in this or any other related application, Applicants hereby have amended claims 3-6, 8-10, and 13 in order to overcome the rejections thereto. Applicants therefore request reconsideration of the claims and the withdrawal of the pending rejections.

Applicants appreciate the Examiner's indication that claims 27-34 are allowed.

Claims 3-6 and 8-10

Claim 3 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 101. Claims 4-6 and 8-10 depend (directly or indirectly) from claim 3 and therefore were also rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 101. While not yielding to the correctness of the rejection of claims 3-6 and 8-10 under 35 U.S.C. § 101, Applicants have amended these claims such that the rejection therefore is now moot.

Claim 3, as amended, is directed to an electronically transmittable linked report comprising: a text section; and an endnote section, the endnote section a) being independent of the text section, b) including information for linking portions of text contained in the text section to predetermined link information, and c) comprising at least one endnote, said endnote including character information for identifying the address within the text which is to be linked and view state information, the view state information further including at least a link information address corresponding to the address from which the link information can be retrieved. The amendment

to claim 3 does not introduce new matter and is specifically supported in Applicants' specification, for example, at page 3 and page 6 through page 7.

As amended, claim 3 is directed to an electronically transmittable linked report. Such electronically transmittable linked report produces a useful, concrete, and tangible result and, therefore, meets the requirements of 35 U.S.C. § 101. See M.P.E.P. 2106 (IV) (B) (2) (a). Applicants, therefore, submit that independent claim 3 is in condition for allowance.

Claims 4-6 and 8-10 depend (directly or indirectly) from independent claim 3 and have also been amended to recite an electronically transmittable linked report. Therefore, claims 4-6 and 8-10 are patentable for at least the same reasons as claim 3.

Claim 13

Claim 13 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph. Claim 13 has been amended to overcome this rejection. In particular, Applicants have added the word "including" following the word "endnote" to correct the specific deficiency pointed out in the Office Action. This amendment does not introduce new matter. Applicants, therefore, submit that independent claim 13 is in condition for allowance.

Claims 14-15 and 17-18 depend (directly or indirectly) from independent claim 13 and, therefore, claims 14-15 and 17-18 are patentable for at least the same reasons.

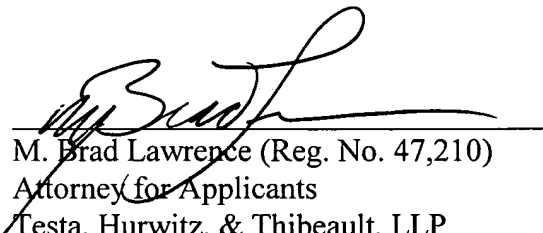
CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicants submit that all of the pending claims are in condition for allowance. Accordingly, Applicants request reconsideration, withdrawal of all rejections, and allowance of all of the pending claims in due course.

Respectfully submitted,

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